

OUR DUMB ANIMALS



A NATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE ~
"WE SPEAK FOR THOSE
THAT CANNOT SPEAK FOR
THEMSELVES"

U.S. TRADE MARK REGISTERED

THE MASSACHUSETTS
SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION
OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ~
THE AMERICAN HUMANE
EDUCATION SOCIETY

Vol. 60

No. 12

DECEMBER, 1927

Price 10

Cents



"WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR THEY REJOICED WITH EXCEEDING GREAT JOY"

Our Dumb Animals

U. S. Trade Mark Registered

FOUNDED BY GEO. T. ANGELL IN 1868, AND FOR FORTY-ONE YEARS EDITED BY HIM



The Massachusetts Society
for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

The American Humane Education Society

The American Band of Mercy

I would not enter on my list of friends,
Though graced with polished manners and fine sense,
Yet wanting sensibility, the man
Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm.

—COWPER

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THE number of horses in the country compared with the number of trucks and tractors apparently depends largely upon the man who makes the statement. To hear the truck and tractor salesman tell the story one might think the last horse was on his last legs.

SEVEN hundred and fifty eggs, worth approximately \$20, are produced every second in the United States. This statement was made as a conservative estimate at the World's Poultry Congress held last August at Ottawa, Canada.

THE Army and Navy forever. Three cheers for the red, white and blue!" If the glory of the red, white and blue is dependent chiefly on the Army and Navy—as many seem to think—it's rather a sad commentary on our 150 years of history.

WE believe the character of motion pictures is steadily improving. That there are enough bad ones still no one will deny. If those who want better pictures will go to see only the best and refuse to patronize the worse, the day of the disreputable ones will the more quickly end.

TRAVELERS in Italy continue to tell of the almost incredible indifference in many sections of that country to the welfare of animals. The sufferings of horses and donkeys from cruel treatment and neglect are probably unsurpassed in any other European state. What a chance for Mussolini to issue a decree!

MISS ANNIE M. DORE, a helpful and devoted friend of our Societies, tells us of the following incident:

One noon as I was passing along Devonshire Street, Boston, near the National Shawmut Bank, I saw a horse having trouble with the dinner pail attached to his head. I expected to see him give his head a toss and throw the oats over him. Instead I was amazed to see him stretch out his right front leg, bend it at the knee, and, on the shelf thus formed, rest the pail. From it he thereupon continued quietly to eat his dinner.

THE CHRISTMAS CARAVAN

ELEANOR BALDWIN

HIGH in the heavens the sun—
And driven one by one
Three camels from an Eastern land
Cast shadows on the sand.

Deep in men's eyes unrest;
Deep in their hearts a quest;
And myrrh weighs down the saddle-hold,
And frankincense and gold.

Clear in the holy night
The gracious moon walks white,
But three swift camels from afar
Follow a moving star.

They pass the folded sheep,
They pass dark herds asleep,
To kneel at last, their journey done,
Before God's little Son.

CHRISTMAS AGAIN!

CHRISTMAS again! Yes, Christmas, like the Glad Tidings, so old and yet ever new! Even *Our Dumb Animals* has been wishing its readers Merry Christmas, lo, these sixty years! And what can we say in 1927 that has not been said a thousand times before, and better said than we can hope to say it now?

It is an old message, but so long as children are born and there remains one spark of the Light of nineteen hundred years ago, so long will Christmas tell its wonderful story anew. For Christmas is, above all, the children's day. Indeed, when all else is said, Christmas is the one day in the calendar when we are all children, or wish we were, or try to be. So some of us who have lived through many Christmases will think of happy hours spent with Irving, with Dickens, with Thackeray, whose descriptions of the festival live in our minds quite as much as the real celebrations we have enjoyed, and others of us, who live in Boston, will climb Beacon Hill again on Christmas Eve to see the many-candled windows that so vividly bring back the days of old.

Wherever this printed page may go, and it will reach many foreign lands as well as every part of the United States before December 25 next, *Our Dumb Animals* wishes the best Christmas yet to every reader, young or old.

JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES

WE are personally grateful to the Religious Society of Friends for the effort they are making to bring about a better understanding on the part of our citizens of what is often spoken of as the Japanese question. The exclusion act was a bitter blow to a proud and sensitive nation. Those who should know by long acquaintance with Japan and her people tell us unhesitatingly that the common impression in America that the Japanese are hostile to us is wholly false. The same quota governing the coming to us annually of citizens of other nations should apply to them. It would mean only about a hundred a year, and beyond that would do much to win us the good will and friendship of a very remarkable people. Who has ever charged the Japanese among us with any attempt to discredit our institutions or with disregard of our laws federal or state?

LET US BE FAIR

NOTHING is easier than to charge the members of the colored race with crime wherever they live in large numbers. How many times they have been made to suffer for deeds of their white fellows no record has been kept to tell us. We are glad to reproduce the words of the head of Tuskegee, Major Moton, relative to this long and cruel injustice. This is what he says:

It is a common occurrence that when a crime is committed in a community where there is a considerable number of Negroes, the first utterance on the part of the excited citizens is, "Get the Negro." And as a result the real criminals have sometimes gained sufficient time to cover up their tracks while the officers of the law and infuriated citizens are the all too willing victims of this time-worn ruse. And this applies, as the evidence shows, to Michigan as well as Georgia, to the North as well as the South.

Very justly has it been said, "The Negroes are weak and to a great extent helpless. But they have no more of a criminal tendency than several other elements in our population." Far less so than some.

SWITZERLAND is planning for an Animal Welfare Week. Round the world the idea goes.

ANIMALS SUFFER FROM MISUSE AND ABUSE

PUBLICITY AND PROTESTS OF JACK LONDON CLUBS HAVE WORKED NOTICEABLE BENEFITS

THE Jack London Club can be largely credited with having caused several leading circuses to eliminate trained wild animal acts, and wild animals perhaps can be thankful there is a Jack London Club of hundreds of thousands of members making publicity about the cruelty in training them to do unreasonable tricks for exhibitions.

A CATHOLIC POINT OF VIEW

DENTON, TEXAS.

Editor, *Our Dumb Animals*:

Our Dumb Animals, October issue, page 148, copies an item from *Chicago Leader* which begins thus: "The Rodeo is wrong—it is inherently, fundamentally wrong." All good humane papers should copy that item and give it national circulation. What of training dogs and other animals for shows? Oh, what cruelty there is in our country towards brute creation! But what should be said of the lynching of Negroes in some parts of our country? Why is the press so timid on this barbarity? Have Negroes no souls? Are they not human? A few words more. If Rodeo and bull-fights are so objectionable, what should be said of that disgraceful prize fight which took place in windy Chicago and, a short time previous to that, in New York? Shame on New York and Chicago! What impression do these brutalities leave upon our boys? We are a scandal to Europe, China and Japan. Indeed we Americans have many reasons to hang our heads in shame.

RAYMOND VERNIMOUT
Catholic Priest

A FILLING STATION IN MAINE

From the letter of a subscriber

DURING the summer my husband and I invited some friends on a trip to Lucerne-in-Maine. Just before arriving there we came to a filling station where there were several cages of animals.

All the cages were in a filthy condition. The bear seemed too well fed. He was lying down and seemed to have as little interest in life as the fatted hog. The monkey was one of the saddest little animals I ever beheld. The raccoons were very unhappy and acted very timid. Several little guinea pigs were crowded in a small and dirty box with wire over the top.

But worst of all was a small fox. Its pen was larger than the others. It was sitting on a shelf on the farther side. It was hollow-eyed and so thin you could count its ribs. The floor of the pen was covered with dirty bones that looked as if they had lain there some time. There was no sign of fresh food anywhere. But the filling station for which these poor creatures were imprisoned was a combined grocery store, meat market and ice-cream parlor!

I refused to go into the store to purchase anything and the other lady followed my example. When the others came out I tried to make them see the condition of those poor imprisoned creatures. And I think I was successful, for several days after I met one of our guests who said that he had been unable to get that little fox out of mind and that he had never thought of those wayside places before.



DULL AND DEJECTED REMNANTS OF WILD LIFE

THE CAPTIVE

*THE bear that stalks behind these bars
Has prowled the jungle wilds, before
They gave to him the noise of cars
That rattle past the keeper's door—*

*The cars that bring the staring herd
Who gibber in that tragic face:—
The mind, so agile once, is stirred
But slowly, in this hated place.*

*Slowly, but yet the vision grows
Clearer with every passing day,
Of a flat rock, where the wind blows
Cool drifts of healing forest spray.*

*Sometimes the vision is obscured,
The dull mind ever slower gropes;
But his disease will not be cured:
He'll never climb his wooded slopes.*

*Outside the gaping people stare
And laugh if clumsily he stands
Pawing the bars—oh fools, beware—
Go not too near with pointing hands.*

OLIVE CLARE PRIMROSE
in *Cornhill Magazine*, London

STEADY DRIVE AGAINST RODEO

FOR a long time a widening circle of California citizens has been agitated over the cruel features attached to the Rodeo. An increasing number of people realize that there is a dark side to the western glamor of this brutal sport; a dark side of pain and suffering among the animals who take part in the shows. No Rodeo is without its accidents and injuries to the animals, and it is part of the "routine" of a Rodeo that suffering is inflicted on the animals. If the animals did not suffer the show would not be a Rodeo. The sentiment against the cruel side of the Rodeo has been growing steadily all over the West and an organization to abolish it has recently been formed. The founders of the organization, well-known humanitarian work-

ers in California, realized that the humane supervision of the Rodeos did not act as a deterrent to atrocious acts of cruelty. Cruelties were being perpetrated in spite of the supervision and each Rodeo added its list of "injuries and accidents" to the long list of such happenings in the history of these shows. The California Anti-Rodeo Association is a crystallization of the growing sentiment against the cruel, degrading and inhumane features of the modern American Rodeo. The sentiment against these exhibitions is nationwide. Educators perceive the pernicious influence the cruelties of the Rodeos have on children who watch them, and the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has passed resolutions calling upon all welfare organizations to co-operate with them in a campaign for law enforcement against the continuance of this pernicious un-American institution.

It is the purpose of the California Anti-Rodeo Association to form branch organizations in all the cities and towns of California to further the growth of the sentiment against the Rodeos and have the cruelties attached to them legally abolished. Miss Edith Latham, noted pioneer humanitarian, is president of the association, and Mrs. Walter Manchester of Berkeley, who has been engaged in humanitarian work in California for many years, is vice-president and manager of the campaign against the Rodeos. The new organization has the backing of many leading California citizens, and also a long list of prominent men and women throughout the United States.

THOUGH membership in the Jack London Club costs nothing, the Massachusetts S. P. C. A. has spent hundreds of dollars in carrying on the movement against trained-animal performances. Only a few persons have ever contributed toward the expense. Gifts, however, are acceptable to aid in carrying on the work, but remember that the Club, without a treasury, without levying dues or assessments, is open to membership for all genuine friends of dumb animals.

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AN ASTONISHING REPORT

THREE met recently in Paris the International Congress for Psychical Research. Some remarkable assertions were made with regard to the animal mind. The statement was made that horses and dogs give abundant evidence of thinking power and that there was thought transference from the man to the animal. Many of us remember the almost unbelievable things done by the Elberfeld horses some years ago. We vouch for nothing, but the following report of the Congress was cabled to the *New York Times*:

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Special Cable to The New York Times

PARIS, Sept. 30.—Dr. Karl Krall of Munich delivered two long lectures on thinking animals today before the International Congress for Psychical Research.

Dr. Krall said he trained animals first by thought transmission, after which they could perform most difficult feats, such as subtracting cube roots and writing the names of visitors. Naturally, Dr. Krall's horses, the animals with which he works principally, must translate his thoughts by the aid of a numerical alphabet.

By his method of training, he declared that he succeeded in fourteen days in bringing a horse to the point where it could count to fifty-four. Once a horse was trained, he said, it made no difference whether the trainer aided the animal by transmitting thoughts or not, but with the trainer present the result was pretty much the same whether the horse was blindfolded or whether it saw the problem it was to solve.

For instance, according to Dr. Krall, a horse was blindfolded and two professors each thought of a number which they had written. The horse tapped eight times. The professors compared papers and found that one had written the number 5 and the other 3. Dr. Krall said that the horse received the transmission of the two thoughts and simply added them. He declared it was a simple operation for the horse.

One of his horses showed such remarkable mathematical powers, continued Dr. Krall, that when it was asked to extract the cube root of a certain number, it signified a reply that it was impossible unless one digit of the number was dropped.

The alphabet used by Dr. Krall gives two key numbers to each letter. But, as it would take an intelligent school boy a certain time to write with such an alphabet, this did not explain the facility with which Dr. Krall's horse employed it.

Dr. Krall concluded from his experiments that telepathy should be considered the line of junction between men and animals.

"Talking" with Dogs and Horses

PARIS, Sept. 30 (A.P.)—That dogs and horses also are thinking animals and man need not lay sole claim to such popularly admitted definition was the thesis discussed by the International Congress for Psychical Research.

Dr. Karl Krall of Munich argued that all animals, especially dogs and horses, have powers of comprehension and interpretation rarely appreciated at their full value by their brother-thinking animals—men.

Dr. Wilhelm Neumann read a communication on his "thinking dog, Rolf," intended to prove telepathic contact between man and other animals, emphasizing the thinking possibilities of the so-called lower animals.



INTEREST IN GOOD SADDLE HORSES IS INCREASING

"Animals do not begin to exercise logical thought immediately, but they soon respond to thoughts transmitted them by humans," Dr. Krall said. "Don't expect an animal to converse with you, but he will understand you and will make himself understood."

Dr. Neumann said that his dog Rolf understands and signals with a series of barks so that something resembling a reasoned conversation can be carried on with his master.

"Kindness and mildness must rule," Dr. Neumann said. "You must penetrate the very soul of the animal. Once he realizes that you are his friend he will manifest it in many remarkable ways. Horses and dogs will understand and translate your instructions with almost unbelievable accuracy."

Charles Richet, president of the congress, although expressing unwillingness to declare his view without qualification, said "that it would be very daring to say categorically that human existence is entirely different from that of animals."

"We certainly find evidence of thought in animals," he said, "and the time will come, I think, when we will discover a chain of connection between biology, physiology and metaphysics."

MORE than 100 subscriptions to *Our Dumb Animals* have been received from the Susquehanna County Humane Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and Animals, of Montrose, Pa.

TRYSTE NOEL

THE Ox he openeth wide the doore
And from the snowe he calls her inne,
And he hath seen her Smile therefore,
Our Lady without sinne.
Now soone from sleep
A starre shall leap,
And soon arrive both King and Hinde;
Amen, Amen;
But O, the place co'd I but find!

The Ox hath husht his voyce and bent
Trewie eyes of Pitty ore the Mou,
And on his lovelie Neck, forespent,
The Blessed lays her Browe.
Around her feet
Full Warme and Sweete
His bowerie Breath doth meeklie dwell;
Amen, Amen:
But sore am I with Vaine Travel!

The Ox is Host in Juda's stall,
And Host of more than onelie one,
For close she gathereth withal
Our Lorde, her littel Sonne;
Glad Hinde and King
Their Gyft may bring.
But wo'dtonight my Teares were there;
Amen, Amen:
Between her Bosom and His hayre!

LOUISE IMOGEN GUINEY

ANTI-CROPPING EXHIBIT

THE collection of posters condemning the cropping of dogs' ears, prepared by the American Humane Association and previously exhibited in Santa Barbara, California, the Wisconsin State Fair, and Detroit, Michigan, was shown by the Massachusetts S. P. C. A. in Boston, for several days in November. They were in a vacant store in the Chamber of Commerce building on Federal Street, where thousands of passers-by stopped to view them.

THE HORSES' CHRISTMAS

The annual custom of giving the horses a good Christmas dinner in Boston, instituted by the Massachusetts S. P. C. A., will be repeated on Saturday, December 24, in Post Office Square. So popular a feature at the height of the holiday season has this humane demonstration become that its omission would be a great disappointment.

Contributions are needed to make this Yuletide celebration a success. They will be used to provide the oats, apples and carrots that are the horses' best reward for service. There will be an attractive Tree as usual and a luncheon for drivers and their helpers. Send a donation for "The Horses' Christmas" to 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston, and come, if you can, and enjoy the occasion.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Sister M. Fides Shepperson, Ph. D.

O Spirit of Christ, shed abroad thy might over the face of the earth! Let hope sing in all hearts sweet songs of home and heaven. Let hatreds cease; let their burning blood-marks be washed out of the earth, the sea, and the sky. Comfort the sorrowing; console the lonely; visit the prisoner. Give love to the living, hope to the dying, peace to the dead. Let every day be Christmas.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY

MINNIE LEONA UPTON

THE Christmas Joy! Our hearts grow light,
Remembering that first Christmas Night,
When, 'mid the folk of hoof and horn,
The radiant Prince of Peace was born,
Who came our Earth's dark wrongs to right.

Mild eyes with marveling grew bright
When o'er the fields, from Heavenly height,
Rang forth "Good Will!" Then broke Earth's
morn—
The Christmas Joy!

"Good Will!" The angels took their flight.
Now it is ours still to recite

That message, all unstayed by scorn,
Till no dumb creature so forlorn
As not to feel its deathless might—
The Christmas Joy!

A PLEA FOR THE ANIMALS

S. PARKES CADMAN
in *Boston Herald*

THE stable at Bethlehem plays an important part in the story of the nativity. There were the Babe, His Mother, the shepherds and the wise men. They offered their adoration and their gifts to the Wonder Child. But while for nearly 2,000 years they have been commemorated in countless ways, the dumb animals who looked upon this matchless scene have too often been forgotten.

Surely they were present for a purpose. For is not every creature of God holy? And those who share with man the mystery of sensitive life are emphatically near to him. There is not an alley cat which should not be sacred to us all on Christmas day; not a patient ox or burden-bearing horse and ass and mule which should not have a warm shelter and an extra feed of corn; not a dog whose tail should not wag from dawn till dark of this glorious festival. Let us see to it that the overdriven, little-considered and frequently ill-treated animal kingdom lifts up its head in gratitude for yuletide. "The righteous man is merciful to his beast." It is a poor keeping of Christmas which does not cover with its protecting benevolence everything that has fur and feathers in home and on farmstead and field and in forest.

THAT BETHLEHEM NIGHT

STANDING then, as I imagine now I do, in that Bethlehem night with an infant Christ on the one side and the speechless creatures of God on the other, I cry, Look out how you strike the rowel into that horse's side. Take off that curbed bit from that bleeding mouth. Remove that saddle from that raw back. Shoot not for fun that bird that is too small for food. Forget not to put water into the cage of that canary. Throw out some crumbs to those birds caught too far north in the winter's inclemency. Arrest that man who is making that one horse draw a load heavy enough for three. Rush in upon that scene where boys are torturing a cat, or transfixing butterfly and grasshopper. Drive not off that old robin, for her nest is a mother's cradle and under her wing there may be three or four prima donnas of the sky in training. And in your families and in your schools teach the coming generation more mercy than the present generation has ever shown.

T. DEWITT TALMAGE

Finding Desert Water Through the Birds

WILLIAM A. ROBINSON

As a part of creation the desert is not denied to man; but for travel upon it water and experience are absolutely necessary. They go hand in hand.

Hidden water can almost always be found by study of the habits of the desert animals. The animals have instinct, bestowed upon them by Nature for their protection. We humans have the reasoning mind. The mind can do much when directed by some clew or when upon familiar ground, but confront it with the strange and the dominant, and then we must admit that instinct is there its superior.

That is the case upon the desert. Instinct teaches the animals not to take chances. For instance, if an animal is driven off a trail it positively will come back to the trail sooner or later. If birds are frightened from water, where water is scarce, you will note them returning, one after another, to the spot, to sing only when settled and contented again.

The desert traveler should learn the ways of the birds. Certain native birds will not venture out from water, others will range various distances from it. Birds of plumage, and song birds with a few exceptions, do not go farther than a half-mile from water. These birds seem unable to find new water, for it has been proved that if their wonted water supply dries up, they perish.

When upon a desert flat or in the arid mountains a bird is heard singing, then, as a rule, water is at hand. It may be down in a deserted mining shaft, it may be a spring, and it may be a pool deposited among the rocks by the rain.

If this water is where the larger animals can get at it then trails will lead to it; but if it is in the rocks, high up beyond the reach by hoof and paw, then the only signs for guidance will be the streaks of bird droppings, showing that the birds are constant visitors to the place. Otherwise the water might be missed entirely; but there it is, cold and abundant, as held in the crevices of the sandstone and granite.

The desert sparrow, however, ranges twenty

miles from water when in quest of food. Consequently he cannot be depended upon. But the eagle, the hawk and the buzzard generally keep within five miles of water. Their feeding habits are such that they have to drink and wash their bills. The traveler who sees these meat-eating birds circling high may be pretty well assured that they are foraging in a circle out from a water-hole or have been disturbed by something upon the ground.

It is wise to make in a direct line toward them, with an eye to a trail underfoot, especially in a cattle country; but there will be a coyote or other animal trail and this will eventually lead to water. All trails to water will come together just as the roots of a tree converge at the central bole; and although the first trail may be slender and remote from the indicated spot, if followed in that direction it will join a larger trail and water will be found at the end.

Should a cottonwood tree be sighted, the heart may be gladdened; for this tree cannot live without moisture for its roots, and is an indication that water is somewhere near, either beneath the surface or upon the surface.

Let us take the actual case of a traveler who has learned the desert signs:

He has halted in the midst of the torrid sandy and rocky plain to suck the last drop from his canteen. The scanty draught was warm, but it was wet—tantalizingly wet. The midday sun burned down upon him, the heat waves from the sand and rocks were torturous, and he knew that he must find water soon or he would go crazy.

Where, then, was the nearest water? The desert sparrows flitted and twittered, but they signified little, they did not delude him. Look, however! There was an eagle, winging through the hot blue. He laid his course for the eagle, and after a time he noted an animal trail, slim and faint. The eagle was circling; presently it disappeared behind a hill ahead.

He made for the hill. A tempting mirage, picturing an azure lake, would beckon him to the right, but he resolutely denied it and



WAITING-ROOM AT ANIMAL HOSPITAL, BERLIN S. P. C. A., GERMANY

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toiled on in a straight line. As he climbed the hill the mirage vanished. From the top of the hill he saw a cottonwood tree, on before by a long, long two miles. The eagle seemed to be circling above it in wide sweeps.

Water! He knew better than to try to run, amid that fearful blinding heat. But could he make the goal? At the foot of the hill the animal trails increased. Then he lost them, for his eyes were dry and dimmed, seared by the sun; his lips were swollen and his tongue was like parchment. He dragged himself more slowly; heard the little voice of a song-bird and by that sensed that there was water within a mile.

Could he hold out? He put his mind to work, and determined that he would reach the water. Oh, for a moment of shade, to relieve him from that cruel sun. Through merely an instant a wisp of cloud tempered the heat, and encouraged him. His legs were weakening, he scarcely could see, but he managed to stagger to a tall mesquite shrub, in whose narrow, thin shadow he lay gasping.

Listen! The lilt of happy song-birds in the cottonwood told him that water was near, perhaps within two hundred yards. The songs guided him, until he fell wallowing in a shallow pool; drank sparingly, waited, drank again, and thanked the gods of the desert for their gift of the desert birds.

MIMEOGRAPHING HUMANE IDEAS

WE have received from Mr. J. P. Durkin, proprietor of the Pittsburgh Type-writer & Supply Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., some very interesting sample sheets containing humane hints and suggestions, with illustrations, which are distributed by the thousand to the firm's customers. One of the subjects treated is "The Folly of the Blinder"; another deals with common cruelties such as shooting birds, chaining dogs, etc. We suggest that interested persons, especially those having access to mimeograph and similar machines, write to Mr. Durkin, at 339 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, for samples of his work and methods pursued in circulating the sheets.



NEST AND YOUNG OF BROWN THRASHER

Home Life of the Brown Thrasher

ALVIN M. PETERSON

Photographs by the Author

A BRUSH pile is unsightly, especially if it adorns the yard or some other conspicuous spot near the yard. Still, we have for many years had a few brush piles near the house. Though these have been displeasing to the eye, they have been of good service to us, for they have enabled us to have brown thrashers for near bird neighbors. We have always had brown thrashers for neighbors, since they have not only visited us, sung for us and visited our bird-bath, but have nested near us, on the premises in fact. We have furnished these birds with nesting-sites and have been rewarded for our trouble in that they have provided us with grand opera music and have shown their confidence in us by nesting in the places we provided for them. Then, too, they have no doubt done some good work destroying insect pests.

Some of the first thrashers returning to us in the spring have hovered about the place, seeming to have taken a liking to it, have sung for us day after day, and finally have nested in the brush piles we reserved for their use. Last spring, as usual, a pair of these birds made themselves at home near the house. Early in May the two began building their nest in a brush pile we made for them near the drive. The nest was completed the first week in May. On the ninth, it held three speckled eggs, on the tenth, four, and two days later, six. Then incubation began and in due time the nest held young thrashers, five of them, since one egg failed to hatch. But the five youngsters the parents successfully reared. I often saw the old birds about the pile making their way to or from it, when feeding the youngsters, and whenever I looked at the nest found it fuller and fuller of bird life. Finally, it overflowed and after that the happy family lived in the bushes near the front yard.

Still, on the whole, during the nesting period, we saw but little of our bird neighbors. Thrashers are shrewd birds that know how to keep the location of their nest a secret. They do not make any noise near the nest, nor are they in any sense conspicuous. They keep out of sight as much as possible, working their way to and from the nest by the ground route.

Our thrashers built their second nest in a second brush pile near the barn. This nest held four eggs, one of which failed to hatch. The young birds made their appearance late in June. I decided to get a more intimate glimpse of the home life of our pretty brown bird neighbors, this time, if possible, so placed an umbrella blind near the nest. And how much life I discovered about that brush pile as a consequence! When outside the blind and off a short distance, no signs of bird life were to be observed. But once inside the blind, I found that much of interest and importance was taking place about the brush pile.

I spent three hours in the blind all told, one hour early in the day, a second, just after the noon hour, and a third, late in the afternoon. The parents made sixteen trips to the nest with food during the morning hour, fourteen during the noon hour, and twelve during the evening hour, or a total of forty-two trips, an average of fourteen each hour. Consequently, I estimated that these birds fed their young about two hundred twenty-five times each day.

The parents always entered the brush pile from the back, gradually working their way to the nest near which the blind stood. The birds always were a bit suspicious of the blind. They uttered notes of alarm from time to time. And very often they craned their necks as they tried to get a glimpse of me through the observation hole. And no matter how



BROWN THRASHER LEAVING NEST IN
BRUSH PILE

hard I tried to keep out of sight, they always did manage to see me. Then they at once began uttering their "clicking," "charr" and whistled "wehu" notes of alarm.

The young birds began chirping and begging for food whenever they saw or heard a parent near the nest. They crowded and jostled each other in their effort to get to the back part of the nest, where they would be first in the bread line. Sometimes, they perched on or hung over the rim of the nest, necks stretched, mouths wide open.

Owing to the fact that the parents were out of sight most of the time except when actually cramming food down their youngsters' throats, it was impossible for me to see what they fed the young. Still, on two occasions, I noticed they had wild berries.

I soon discovered that both parents fed the young. The male bird sang whenever he was near the nest with food, while the mother either remained silent or uttered notes of alarm. But though his song was the same as that which he sang from the tree-tops, it was so low at times I could scarcely hear it. To all appearances, he could not refrain from singing, but was wise enough to sing in low tones, so his song would not disclose the whereabouts of the nest.

*MAKER of earth and sea and sky,
Creation's Sovereign Lord and King;
Who hung the starry worlds on high
And formed alike the sparrow's wing;
Bless the dumb creatures of Thy care,
And listen to their voiceless prayer.*

EMILY B. LORD

SYMPATHY for the lower animals is one of the noblest virtues with which man is endowed.

DARWIN

Our Dumb Animals

Published on the first Tuesday of each month by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 46 Central Street, Norwood, Massachusetts. Boston office, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Mass.

Dr. FRANCIS H. ROWLEY, President
GUY RICHARDSON, Editor
WILLIAM M. MORRILL, Assistant

DECEMBER, 1927

FOR TERMS, see back cover.

AGENTS to take orders for *Our Dumb Animals* are wanted everywhere. Liberal commissions are offered.

EDITORS of all periodicals who receive this publication this month are invited to reprint any of the articles with or without credit.

MANUSCRIPTS relating to animals, particularly prose articles of about three hundred words, are solicited. We do not wish to consider prose manuscripts longer than 800 words, nor verse in excess of thirty-six lines. The shorter the better. Addressed envelope with full return postage should be enclosed with each manuscript submitted.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR A GREAT PACKING HOUSE

WE have just read in the Toronto *Huma*ne *Pleader* a striking suggestion. More and more the world, especially our American world, is growing familiar with the cruelties connected with the slaughter of our food animals. The packers themselves admit it. But the competition is too strong. They cannot stop to be humane. Time is too great an economic factor. Now here is the striking suggestion of the Toronto magazine: Let some great packing-house like Armour's or Swift's announce to the public that they have changed from their old inhumane methods and that a humane device had been put into practice instantly and painlessly destroying before the use of the knife all the animals they slaughter, and we venture to say that tens of thousands of people the land over would insist that their butchers furnish them with only such meat as came from that abattoir. Every humane journal in the whole United States would advertise this, thousands of dollars of free advertisements, and commend the packing-house to its readers.

Such a device is possible. If the humane societies have not been able as yet to offer it to the packers in perfected form they have at least developed the principle upon which such an instrument can be manufactured and put into use. Even if the humane societies had done nothing as the result of thousands of dollars spent toward this end that would be no excuse for the gigantic slaughtering institutions of the country to neglect to spend the money necessary to secure a thoroughly practical way to lessen to the minimum the sufferings of the millions of animals they annually destroy for food. The demand for humamer methods in killing food animals is rapidly spreading abroad as well as in this country and the day is approaching when an enlightened public opinion will demand that the shame and the cruelty of our present methods be stopped.

INSTEAD of the small creatures of the hedges and fields and byways growing too wise to get into the path of the deadly automobile, as some seem to think, our own thought is that so many of them have been crushed to death that their absence from the highways, so far as fewer of them are seen, is due rather to the destruction that has already taken place.

AN AMERICAN BISHOP IN A NEW ROLE

UNDER the heading, "Bishop Blesses Hunt Club Pack," the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* of October 2, 1927, reports a strange scene under the shadow of a little Episcopal Church and an act of a bishop about as nearly related to religion as the blessing of holy water by his Satanic Majesty. We regret that the saintly bishop failed to bless the poor fox which it was hoped would be discovered and which, being discovered, was chased for nearly three-quarters of an hour by baying hounds, racing horses, and men and women—all blessed. We have cut out of the report, for the sake of brevity, several sentences and one or two paragraphs but nothing that in any way changes the real story:

The tiny white spire of St. Christopher's by the River, Gates Mills' seventy-four-year-old church, looked down upon a new scene yesterday. Hounds, horses and riders invaded its lawn. Not uninvited, however, they were met at the gate by the vicar, the bishop and a crucifer, who conducted them to the steps of the church.

The occasion was the blessing of the hounds, performed for the first time in this country yesterday before the first hunt of the year of the Chagrin Valley Hunt Club by Bishop Coadjutor Warren L. Rogers of the Episcopal diocese of Ohio and Rev. J. F. Jackson, a vicar of St. Christopher's.

The tall figure of the bishop in his purple cassock stepped forward. Behind him were the vicar in academic black and young Alexander Ginn, in a gown of red and white, carrying the crucifix. "I am happy to take part in this most unusual occasion," said the bishop, "when we call God's blessing upon us to enjoy our sport and community affairs." "Bless, O Lord, the rider and the horse," intoned the vicar, "Bless the hounds that run; and by their running give strength and cleanliness of mind to all who join in this sport."

The huntsman's horn rang out. Up went the forty-seven tails of the pack. The riders sprang to their saddles. They were off. A field of nearly fifty men and women riders rode through the woods for nearly two hours before a fox was found. This long-sought moment was presaged by wild excitement among the hounds, and then a streak of red. Out across the fields they rode, horses at a gallop, over fences, over brooks for forty minutes, until they put the fox to ground. Then rain came in deluges and White called the hunt off.

THE FILM AND SURGERY

PLANS are being perfected by the motion picture industry whereby pictures in slow motion and magnified, of operations performed by leading surgeons, may be used to aid the surgeon and doctor in the smallest hamlet of the land. The possibilities in this direction for the benefit of doctors and nurses in the treatment and care of patients promise to be of great advantage to those who are largely separated from medical centers. In the motion picture also lies the hope of ending the innumerable and repeated experiments on animals for the benefit of medical students. The film will tell even a better story than the operator's performance, and to a much larger number. Quite a little has already been done by the motion picture to reduce the number of some of the experiments that for generations have been repeated in medical schools.

THE BRITISH SLAUGHTER BILL

Chief Features of Measure Now Before the House of Commons

A PERSON shall not, whether in a slaughter-house or elsewhere, proceed to bleed any animal until it shall have been effectually stunned with a mechanically operated instrument of a type sufficient and suitable for the purpose by applying the muzzle of the instrument to the head of the animal in such a manner as will cause the bullet or bolt of the instrument when fired to render the animal insensible to pain.

Every person acting as a killer in connection with the business of slaughtering animals for food shall be required to be licensed by a local authority, and such license shall not be granted under this Act unless the local authority is satisfied that the person is qualified by physical condition, training and ability, to handle animals without causing suffering, and to handle the instrument effectively.

Every person engaged in driving or bringing any animal to the place of slaughter shall adopt such methods and precautions as will prevent the infliction upon the animal of unnecessary suffering or pain.

No person under the age of sixteen years shall be admitted to, or permitted to remain in, a slaughter-house during the process of slaughtering or cutting up the carcass of any animal.

Any constable or accredited officer of a society approved by the Minister of Health for the protection or defence of animals may enter slaughter-houses or any place where he has reason to believe that any animal is being, or is about to be, killed for the purpose of the flesh being used for butcher's meat, for the purpose of examining whether there is any contravention therein of this Act.

The expression "animal" means any horse, mare, gelding, pony, foal, colt, filly, stallion, donkey, mule, bull, cow, bullock, heifer, calf, steer, ox, sheep, ewe, ram, lamb, pig, boar, hog, sow, goat or kid.

HARD TO BELIEVE

THAT a group of intelligent women of New York City should lend their names as patronesses to a Rodeo performance to raise money for the relief of human suffering reminds us of something told us by a friend who was present once at a social gathering in Spain where the late King Edward VII was a guest. Someone proposed the organization of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, and a number of Spanish ladies immediately suggested staging a bull-fight to raise the necessary money. A vigorous protest against such an anomaly as submitting steers, calves, and horses to the sufferings inflicted upon them in Rodeo shows for the purpose of aiding financially suffering humanity has been made by the Women's League for Animals of New York City. The fact is, however, that the New York S. P. C. A. has made impossible any actual cruelty at these performances.

Free stalls and kennels in the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital may be endowed by individuals. Seventy-five dollars a year for a horse stall, thirty-five dollars a year for a kennel. Stalls and kennels are marked with the names of the donors.

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Founded by Geo. T. Angell. Incorporated March, 1868

DR. FRANCIS H. ROWLEY, President

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Rest Farm for Horses and Small Animal Shelter, Methuen

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Women's Auxiliary of the Mass. S. P. C. A.

180 Longwood Avenue, Boston
Mrs. EDITH W. CLARKE, President
Mrs. LUCIUS CUMMINGS, Vice-President
Mrs. A. J. FURBUSH, Treasurer
Miss HELEN W. POTTER, Secretary

MONTHLY REPORT

Miles traveled by humane officers.	10,344
Cases investigated	748
Animals examined	4,280
Number of prosecutions	18
Number of convictions	17
Horses taken from work	104
Horses humanely put to sleep	121
Small animals humanely put to sleep	970

Stock-yards and Abattoirs

Animals inspected	34,608
Cattle, swine and sheep humanely put to sleep	101

The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has been remembered in the wills of Mary Frances Drown of Brookline, and of Gertrude Allen French of Somerville.

November 8, 1927.

Remember the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in your will.

Angell Memorial Animal Hospital
184 Longwood Avenue Telephone Regent 6100
Veterinarians
H. F. DAILEY, v.m.d., Chief
R. H. SCHNEIDER, v.m.d.
E. F. SCHROEDER, d.v.m.
W. M. EVANS, d.v.s.
G. B. SCHNELLE, v.m.d.
HARRY L. ALLEN, Superintendent
FREE Dispensary for Animals
Hours from 2 to 4, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Saturday, from 11 to 1.
Advice for sick and injured animals.

HOSPITAL REPORT FOR OCTOBER

Hospital	Free Dispensary		
Cases entered	695	Cases	2,442
Dogs	477	Dogs	1,944
Cats	197	Cats	477
Horses	17	Birds	13
Birds	3	Monkeys	4
Monkey	1	Horses	2
		Squirrel	1
		Turtle	1
Operations	550		
Hospital cases since opening, Mar. 1, '15.	68,471		
Free Dispensary Cases	119,309		
Total	187,780		

MASSACHUSETTS S. P. C. A. IN THE COURTS

Convictions in October

Beating dog, \$50 fine.
Overloading horses, \$15 fine.
Driving galled horse, convicted, case filed.
Beating horse, \$15 fine.
Using unfit horse, \$25 fine.
Throwing dog over fence and fatally injuring, \$20 fine.
Using lame horse, \$20 fine.
Driving galled horse, \$10 fine.
Driving unfit horse, \$15 fine.
Sending out galled horse, fined \$100 and sentenced one month; appealed, fined \$125 in Superior Court.
Beating horse with hoe, \$75 fine.
Working galled horse \$20 fine.
Tying calves by legs, plea of *nolo*, paid costs, filed.
Beating horse, \$10 fine.
Using galled horse, \$20 fine.
Non-feeding stock, filed, paid costs.
Driving lame horse, \$15 fine.
Sending out galled horse, \$10 fine.
Driving unfit horse, sentenced to jail two weeks.
Using galled horse, \$15 fine.
Setting dog on hogs and stoning them, filed, paid costs.
Driving galled horse, case filed.
Driving galled horse, \$10 fine.
Sending out galled horse, \$10 fine.

ANIMAL WELFARE WORKERS' FAIR

THE third annual fair and sale of the Animal Welfare Workers of Taunton, Mass., held at the home of Mrs. Howard L. White, 72 Church Green, Friday, October 21, from 1 to 6 o'clock, was one of the most successful affairs ever conducted by the society. Hundreds of interested persons visited the fair, some of the women playing whist, and many purchasing the various articles on display. Tea was served. In addition to fancy articles on display, there were home-made cakes and candies, and many useful articles. The committee was headed by the president of the society, Mrs. Howard F. Woodward, as general chairman.

REMEMBER the annual Horses' Christmas Tree celebration, under auspices of the M. S. P. C. A., in Post Office Square, Boston, December 24.

NOTICE

Berkshire County

EDWIN D. MOODY has been appointed officer of The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for Berkshire County in place of Fred M. Truesdell. He can be found at 139 Howard Street, Pittsfield. His telephone number will be announced in all the local papers of Berkshire County at the earliest possible date. It is hoped that friends of the Society and of our cause will report to Mr. Moody all complaints of violation of the anti-cruelty laws and will make use of his services in every way for the advancement of the welfare of animals in Berkshire County.

FRANCIS H. ROWLEY, President

DO YOU EVER THINK OF THEM?

THE millions upon millions of poultry that are being shipped annually from place to place. Sometimes they travel in special railroad cars that cover hundreds of miles and in which before they reach their destination the odor is stifling; oftener in small, badly-constructed crates, by wagon and truck, often packed in like sardines, often unfed and unwatered, often injured by crates being flung down one upon the other. Then, reaching the markets in anything but a healthy condition, they are sold to restaurants, hotels and other eating places where anything under the name "chicken" passes for food. Every active humane society is constantly watching the markets where these poor things are sold and on the lookout for those who transport them with no regard to their welfare or comfort.

We are glad to see that the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is sufficiently interested to have made it possible for its representative to address the recent annual meeting of the American Humane Association upon this subject. He said among other things that farmers should be educated regarding the transportation of poultry to market. Greater care is needed to prevent overcrowding in coops, especially in warm weather; protection of poultry from drafts in transit in cold weather should be provided; and instructions should be issued to all employees of shippers and transportation agencies to handle coops of poultry less roughly and with greater care to see that heads are not caught when one coop is moved over another. He stated that empty coops should be placed in the bottom of a truck load in hot weather for better ventilation; that care should be exercised in piling or stacking coops of poultry to insure adequate ventilation; that the feeding of unnatural feeds in transit or in the markets should be prohibited; and that an inspection service on live poultry should be inaugurated at all markets.

Our Society has been sending for years hundreds of circulars throughout New England to agents at express offices giving full directions as to how poultry should be shipped. We have carefully watched in Massachusetts also the transportation of poultry. Many prosecutions have followed disregard of these directions.

A FULL report of the Fair of the Women's Auxiliary of the Massachusetts S. P. C. A., held November 15, will appear next month.



Founded by Geo. T. Angell.

Incorporated 1889

For rates of membership in both of our Societies see back cover. Checks should be made payable to the Treasurer.

Officers of the American Humane Education Society

180 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Mass.

DR. FRANCIS H. ROWLEY, President
HON. A. E. PILLSBURY, Counselor
ALBERT A. POLLARD, Treasurer
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CHARLES E. ROGERSON, President of the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company

Humane Press Bureau

Mrs. May L. Hall, Secretary

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D. D. Fitch.....	British West Indies
Nicasio Zulaica C.....	Chile
F. W. Dieterich.....	China
Mrs. Jeannette Ryder.....	Cuba
Charles Maul.....	Czecho-Slovakia
Luis Pareja Cornejo.....	Ecuador
William B. Allison.....	Guatemala
Mrs. Mary P. E. Nitobé.....	Japan
Mrs. Marie C. E. Houghton.....	Madeira
J. A. Forbes.....	New Zealand
Luther Parker.....	Philippine Islands
Joaquin Juliá.....	Spain
Rida Himadi.....	Lebanon and Syria
Mrs. Alice W. Manning.....	Turkey

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Mrs. Alice L. Park, Palo Alto, California
Mrs. Rachel C. Hogue, San Diego, California
Mrs. Jennie R. Nichols, Tacoma, Washington
James D. Burton, Harriman, Tennessee
Mrs. Katherine Weathersbee, Atlanta, Georgia
Rev. F. Rivers Barnwell, Fort Worth, Texas
Miss Blanche Finley, Richmond, Virginia
Rev. John W. Lemon, Ark, Virginia
Seymour Carroll, Columbia, South Carolina

Field Representative

Wm. F. H. Wentzel, M.S., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

HANDSOME CALENDAR FOR 1928

THE American Humane Education Society's Calendar for 1928 is the handsomest the Society has ever published. The picture, in four colors, produced by the well-known Osborne Company, shows a happy family scene with horses and a dog. The leaves of the pad, one for each month, contain the usual valuable humane hints on the care of animals and are especially adapted to use in schools. Although extra expense is involved in producing the 1928 Calendar, the price remains the same: 20 cents per single copy, two for 35 cents; \$1.80 per dozen, postpaid to any address. The Calendars are now ready and will be mailed promptly on receipt of price.

Aim of Humane Education

From Introduction to "Humane Treatment of Animals and Birds," by KATE McLEMORE, State Department of Education, Alabama

HUMANE instruction is concerned not merely with the welfare of dumb animals it seeks to befriend and with the consideration of what constitutes justice toward them but it has the higher purpose of development of character, creation of a fine moral sense and enrichment of life. It seeks to awaken in the heart of the child principles of kindness and justice toward his fellow beings and, since education of the heart is essential to individual happiness and to the welfare of society, every teacher should, no matter how crowded may be the curriculum, make a positive and sustained outlay for instruction in the things which count most for the future.

Because the teaching of humanness can be joined easily with opening exercises, reading, nature study, literature, oral and written composition, history, art, visual instruction and civics, such teaching need not disturb the routine of the school but rather it may be made to provide the motive and furnish the content for much of the daily instruction. Accordingly in this booklet ("Humane Treatment of Animals and Birds") there are given brief suggestions by grades for compositions as a part of language lessons, poster and scrapbook making and picture study for art lessons, selections from the adopted grade-readers for reading lessons, and other suggestions which the teacher will extend in any way pointed out by the needs and opportunities arising in her class.

In any plan for instruction in humanness it must be kept in mind that strong and lasting impressions can be made only by a type of teaching that is vital and related. A direct and happy approach to the child's mind to implant the virtues of mercy and justice is by way of his every-day contacts and reactions that come in association with his pets, with domestic animals and with woodfolk acquaintances. Naturally interested in animals and birds, the child is easily led to see his pet's dependence upon him for its enjoyment of life, the farm beasts' and fowls' dependence upon a wise and good owner for proper attention whereby they are made comfortable and fit for labor, and all woodland creatures' dependence upon kind human neighbors for protection. Following this the child may be brought to see himself as guardian for his dumb animal-friends and he should be guided to express his humane ideas through kind deeds performed for the animal with which he is daily associated. And so by faithful, regular and consistent effort the teacher makes kindness a habit for the child.

In humane education, as in all other branches, successful results are to be attained only from a careful and proper foundation followed by systematic work. First there must be created in the child's mind an attitude of humanness and helpfulness, and then there must follow the employment of the acquired attitude in every-day life, for "it is not the possession of psychological ideas but rather of right habits which determines moral value." It is not enough that the child is taught what causes discomfort or unhappiness to animals but he must be guided to perform acts for preventing or remedying the unhappiness. It is not enough that he is made to feel indignant because of some injustice to animals but he must be encouraged to

express his indignation and to protest in his own way against mistreatment of them.

A child readily responds to wise training in patience and love toward dependent dumb creatures and soon exhibits a more patient and loving attitude towards his human companions. Often among groups of children at play there may be observed displays of selfishness, disregard for the rights of others as evidenced by domineering over smaller members of the group, indifference to suffering of others as shown in teasing or intimidating the younger—all pointing to the need of humane education, the need of substituting for a spirit of unruliness and egoism a generous spirit of square dealing and altruism.

RESOLUTIONS AGAINST TRAPPING

AT the convention of the American Humane Association, held in Indianapolis in October, resolutions were passed calling upon the American Kennel Club to prohibit the showing of cropped dogs and that legislation be promoted to specifically forbid cropping, also asking that all humane societies make a sincere effort to outlaw leg-crushing steel traps and that women's organizations, religious bodies, etc., be asked to lend their moral support to the cause. Specific resolutions were passed soliciting the moral support of the Catholic Church and of several Protestant denominations in the cause of the humane trapping of animals.

The first two days of the convention were devoted to the animal section, when a variety of papers were presented and discussed. The exhibit of literature, posters, humane devices, etc., attracted much attention, being visited by hundreds of people besides the delegates. Publications of the American Humane Education Society and *Our Dumb Animals* were in charge of Mr. Wm. F. H. Wentzel, who distributed thousands of copies freely.

Officers and directors of the Association were re-elected, so that there is no change in the management. The attendance is reported to have been large.

EXECUTING YOUR OWN WILL

An Annuity Plan

The Massachusetts S. P. C. A. and the American Humane Education Society will receive gifts, large or small, entering into a written obligation binding the Society safely to invest the same and to pay the donor for life a reasonable rate of interest, or an annuity for an amount agreed upon. The rate of interest or amount of annuity will necessarily depend upon the age of the donor.

The wide financial experience and high standing of the trustees, John R. Macomber, president of Harris, Forbes and Company, Charles G. Bancroft, director of the First National Bank of Boston, and Charles E. Rogerson, president of the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, to whom are entrusted the care and management of our invested funds, are a guaranty of the security of such an investment.

Persons of comparatively small means may by this arrangement obtain a better income for life than could be had with equal safety by the usual methods of investment, while avoiding the risks and waste of a will contest, and ultimately promoting the cause of the dumb animals.

The Societies solicit correspondence upon this subject, and will be glad to furnish all further details. Write for "Life Annuities," a pamphlet which will be sent free.

HOW OLD IS YOUR DOG?

L. E. EUBANKS

JUST as some men are no older at seventy-five than others are at fifty, one dog at ten years of age may be nearly as strong and active as ever, while another of the same age is hopelessly old.

Though dogs occasionally live to the age of fifteen years, the average lifetime is only about ten years. Add to this the fact that a large percentage of dog-owners do not know their pets' ages, and we have a combination of circumstances that often spell unhappiness for the canine.

Some dogs may act quite "frisky" at the age of six—and be easily mistaken for young fellows of three years. Under this impression, the owner would expect the vigor and responsiveness of middle age (five or six years) when the dog was really nine.

Since a year is one-tenth of a dog's life and only a fiftieth of a man's age, these two are not going to remain on equal footing very long. The boy of five who is given a puppy as a playmate will be at the vigorous age of fifteen when the dog is ten; and the boy will make the dog miserable if he continues to expect as much as ever from his pal.

If you know your dog's age, keep track of it. If you purchase an adult dog, ascertain his age as exactly as you can. When there is any reason to expect advanced age, watch for evidences of weakness. Though the failing of his teeth and the dulling of his hearing are both good signs, there is no one indication that can be absolutely relied upon.

Failing efficiency, if the animal has always before been strong and willing, is the most dependable guide. Even if his teeth and ears yet seem normal, a persistent disinclination to respond and join his master in sport may mean the weakness of age—it is either that or illness.

Don't be too exacting. Remember that the dog is old mentally as well as physically, that he is nervous, perhaps a little deaf, and not exact in his sight. He does not get your meaning as quickly as he used to, but be patient with him and he will do his best. His vitality is not what it used to be, and he requires warmer quarters in winter. Blanket him if necessary, for bad colds in aged canines frequently end seriously.

In advanced age, the dog may get steadily thinner in spite of ample feeding. He cannot eat the food, or if he does perhaps the digestion is too weak. Have the dog's teeth cared for by an expert and give him such food as will be easily digested.

His lessened activity may make it hazardous for him to be out of your yard alone. Motor vehicles are a menace to the old dog much as they are to the elderly person. Also, he may be "chewed up" by some pugnacious younger dog—in fact, there are numerous reasons why the aged dog in particular should be kept at home.

THREE is always a public in England, perhaps elsewhere, that either does not hear, or does not really believe you are in earnest unless you shout.



"JENNY," A RECENT PATIENT AT ANGELL ANIMAL HOSPITAL
From etching by Anthony Thieme, well-known Boston artist, owner of the dog

THEY CALLED HIM MAD

Written by a busy man

TODAY I had a novel experience with a so-called mad dog. The little creature was lost in the most fashionable part of the city (New York). I tried to have him come to me and while coaxing him two large dogs came along and ran over him. The little fellow was weak from hunger and exhaustion. He ran upon the porch of one of the houses and fell, beating his head on the stone. I sat on the steps while the crowd yelled "Mad dog!" Fortunately there was no policeman around to shoot him. I remained with him until he came to, and then a lady went into a house and brought some water and milk. Finally I had him under control and proved to the mob that there was no rabies. I then took him to my hotel and called up the Humane Society. They responded immediately and I had them take him. Now I think I have a home for him. He was somebody's pet. I could tell after I fed him and had him in my room. It was pathetic. It was evidently a case of what is known as running fits.

HOSPITAL SETS DOG'S LEG

AT Hoquiam, Wash., the other day, just a common little fist dog without a pedigree, but with a broken leg, appeared in front of a hospital. He hung around as if he knew what he wanted, sounding an occasional faint wail. He was admitted, put on the operating table and his leg "set," coming back next day of his own accord to have it dressed in good hospital style. The surgeon who did the act of kindness and the institution affording the service to the nameless pup, with no owner or home but in the affection of some child, deserve as great fame and distinction as the world's notables who fill the daily newspapers.

—*Industrial News*

Be Kind to Animals Week, April 16 to 21;
Humane Sunday, April 15, 1928.

OVERFEEDING PETS

MRS. NESTOR NOEL

EVERYONE is moved to sympathy by the sight of a poor starved cat or dog. We call it cruelty. We blame the person who is responsible for such a thing. We take the animals into our houses, if we can, and we feed them and give them shelter and love.

There is another side to this question. Have you noticed the cats and dogs which belong to the very rich? Often they are so fat, and unhealthily fat that they can only just waddle along! I hate to see an overfed animal. The poor creature is not happy by so much pampering. He would be better off if allowed to rustle for himself a little. He is led on a chain (if he be a dog) and it is all he can do to keep up with his mistress. He is so lazy that he no longer runs after other dogs to have a good game with them.

An overfed dog is a disgusting sight. The dog is not happy. He is so stuffed that he no longer enjoys a meal.

The overfed dog has not a nice coat. It is not silky. He looks unhealthy. He is cross and snappish. Poor animal! You cannot blame him. It is his mistress who is to blame. I say "his mistress" because it is generally women who overfeed dogs. I have heard a man say: "Do not give that dog any more to eat today," and the minute the man's back was turned, the woman, sorry for her dog, gave it more!

A child is sick when he eats too much. A dog is sick, too. Why make your pet miserable? If you do this it is because you want to please yourself and you do not really care how the poor dog feels.

But he takes it, you say. Well, how can he help it? Would not your child take all the candy you offered him, and would it do him any good? You cannot expect a child to refuse candy. Nor can you expect a dog to refuse food if it tastes extra good.

Once when I lived on a farm where pigs were killed frequently the dog would get too much, though I tried not to let him have it all at once. He ate too much, of course, the first day, but the second day he buried what was over, to keep for a rainy day!

Lap-dogs kept much in the house do not have anywhere nor any chance to bury their food. Sometimes the food is too sloppy; they cannot carry a plate away and bury it with all that is on it. They hate to leave it there for the cat, so they often eat it and suffer for this afterwards.

There are many books about dogs. People who keep dogs and cats should get these books and then use common sense when feeding their pets. Children should not be allowed to give a bite now and then to each animal. Children should be taught how to care for their pets in a sensible manner. From the office of *Our Dumb Animals* may be obtained leaflets telling how to care for the dog and the cat and the rabbit.

Fasting may sometimes do good to man and animal, but overeating never does any good to either. So, do not overfeed your pets. It is not kindness. It is real cruelty!

A RUNAWAY FOX

LILEOTA DE STAFFANY

ONE summer day I packed a few camp necessities in bags and tied them back of my saddle. I was going "exploring." To explore my way was to take a camera and look here and there for beautiful pictures of nature and animals. On this particular trip I was more than successful.

A trail barely wide enough for a horse had been blazed by the forest rangers from the



"HE TURNED HIS HEAD TO LOOK AT ME"

valley to the very top of the flat mountain in the Cascade Range known as Table Mountain. There is nothing unusual about this six thousand foot hill excepting the glorious views that can be seen from the top of it. Valleys, rivers, lakes, towns, and ranges of mountains were spread before me, and close at hand on the sides of the mountains were many rainbow-colored wild flowers.

Descending on the east side I stopped at a small lake that nestled in the rocks at the foot of a huge slide. My horse was tired from the nine-mile climb up the hill, and I was also, for I had walked on the steepest grades. The cool lake and bunch grass looked very inviting.

After taking a few photographs I sat there, admiring the beauty and dreaming as one will when all alone with Mother Nature. All of a sudden I heard a peculiar bark! Not daring to move, I cautiously turned my head and saw a blue fox daintily picking his way from rock to rock!

A beautiful blue fox all alone where no foxes have ever been found before is enough to startle any one. I wanted his picture and I dared not move for fear he would run away. I sat there and waited. He moved on, then stopped near by and turned his head to look at me. Luckily, my camera was all set and I snapped it and "caught" Mr. Blue Fox.

When I returned to the valley and had my films developed I was delighted with the picture. I heard later that one of my neighbors, who owns a fox farm, had lost one of his blues. I didn't say a word. Perhaps some will say that I should have, but I thought of the little fellow I had photographed and how he had looked at me in such a friendly manner and he seemed to know I would not harm him, and so I let him run free. I could not tell.

EMANCIPATION

CHARLES EDWARD ROE

*BUFFALO, camel, dog, and llama,
Horse and ox and ass,
Ghosts of the myriad Little Brothers,
Watch the motors pass.
"Heart of fire, foot of rubber,
Body of brass and steel;
Dead things that live," say the Little Brothers,
"Dead things that cannot feel."

"Man our master long enslaved us
With harness, whip and goad;
Our blood and sweat," say the Little Brothers,
"Mark his upward road.
Years past counting we have labored
For his good, and his alone;
Comes now relief," say the Little Brothers,
"Man makes slaves of his own."

"Only with agony has he paid us,
With hunger, blows and cold;
Our work-time past, we Little Brothers
Stared when we were old.
Now may our children's children find their
Place in the kindly sun...
Bless the machines," say the Little Brothers,
"Our age-old pain is done."*

TO OUR FRIENDS

In making your will, kindly bear in mind that the corporate title of our Society is "The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals"; that it is the second incorporated (March, 1868) Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in the country, and that it has no connection with any other similar Society.

Any bequest especially intended for the benefit of the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital should, nevertheless, be made to The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals "for the use of the Hospital," as the Hospital is not incorporated but is the property of that Society and is conducted by it.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I do hereby give, devise and bequeath to The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (or, The American Humane Education Society), incorporated by special Act of the Legislature of Massachusetts, the sum of dollars (or, if other property, describe the property).



COLORADO BOB-CAT

AN ADMONITION

GARLAND D. FRONABARGER

THE unwritten law of human kindness is gaining popularity. Our industrialism has not blotted out all sympathy for dumb animals. There are varying laws in different states which govern the killing and handling of game, and there are sportsmen who have peculiar hobbies of their own about forest, field, and stream ethics, but a notable instance has come to my attention here in my own state where I regarded conditions as such that game was indeed lucky if a very small part of it escaped death before being full grown.

Keith McCanse, a Missouri game and fish warden, in a recent admonishing address to sportsmen touched one of the high points of what should be the sportsmen's attitude toward inhabitants of the water. He said: "When a fish is caught and the fisherman wishes to return it to the water, it should never be touched with dry hands. A wet hand does not hurt a fish gently handled, but a dry hand will cause it to die after being returned to the habitat.

"There is a slimy substance which forms an outer covering, or protection, to the fish's body. This substance will adhere to the dry hand and be rubbed off, leaving the under coat exposed. Under-water parasites will affix themselves to the spot and infection takes place, resulting in death."

This will mean the saving of thousands of game fish annually, besides attaching that desirable characteristic of humanness to frequenters of the streams. Kindness has its economic value as well as its moral benefits. Our personal attitude toward seemingly insignificant things may unconsciously be transferred in an indifference toward the major issues of life. Not all ground is difficult to traverse—if we watch our step.

The story of the man saved from drowning by a dog at which he had thrown stones is an old story, yet ever new in its significance, for there are constant recurring parallels. There is a sensibility and feeling about animals that dominate their very mien. They have an appreciation for kind treatment and a feeling of injustice toward those who would wrong them.

Especial stress should be laid upon the treatment of animals whose owners find it necessary to put them to death to rid them of suffering from disease or wounds. But here kindness has mission. One can be just in his dealing without being brutal, can be humane without being a butcher, can be reasonable without descending to ill-used sentiment.

Humane standard bearers are playing an important part in civilization, and their work to secure kind treatment of our dumb animals is an admonition, the germ of which was planted by the Shepherd of Galilee.

[Editor's Note.—There is a difference of opinion among experts with regard to the effect of a dry hand upon a fish. At a large hatchery recently we were told it caused no harm. The wet hand is surely safer, especially with a scaleless fish.]

IN a recent motor trip through New Hampshire the following roadside notice was observed:

"By order of the selectmen, cows grazing by the roadside or riding bicycles on the sidewalks is hereafter forbidden."

ARE CATS PARASITES?

MRS. NESTOR NOEL

A LITTLE girl who had heard a great deal about such words as parasites, ne'er-dowells, etc., once startled her family by asking the question, "Are cats parasites?"

I tell you her mother had to be careful how she answered the question, because it was very important to the child.

Parasites, indeed! Because a cat has a nice basket by the fire, because she has good meals and is kept warm and happy, who shall dare say that she is not useful?

You may think there are no mice in your house. How do you know definitely about this? You say you have never seen any. Well, that ought to be sufficient proof; but it is not really so. Have you a cat? Well, then, you are generally safe from mice.

I remember thinking there were no mice about in one house. We had a cat for a time. Then one day Pussy disappeared (stolen, I think) and, lo and behold, we discovered that there were always mice in the pantry. Pussy had not been allowed to roam in the pantry, but I think there is a scent which warns mice off when a cat lives in the house. I would not be without a cat again if I could help it. Yes, Pussy certainly earns her living although I may not see her eat a single mouse! Her presence is enough to guard me against these pests. After all, I do not like to think that she has to eat mice, because that shows that I have not fed her enough, but I like to think that she earns a meal if only by the fact that she lives in our house. She does not need to be a Persian or a Maltese. As long as she is a cat, that is enough.

Then there is companionship. Rich people pay for hired companions. A house without a cat seems to be lacking in something. I love to see a cat asleep on the mat near the fire. She is a beautiful picture. I love to take her on my lap while I read. I love to hear her welcome purr when I come back from my daily walks. I love to feel her rubbing against my legs and saying, in her best cat way, "I love you."

She does not cost very much, but I think she is well worth her salt, or shall I say, her bread and milk?

Cats are not supposed to be as faithful as dogs; but if you treat your cat aright I have no doubt that you will find she is just as faithful as your Pomeranian. I knew a woman who frequently changed her lodgings. It was enough to mystify anyone. I went to see her very often and seldom in the same place. But her cat was always with her. I asked the woman if she carried the cat along, but she said, "No. The cat follows me from house to house."

That cat certainly knew when she was well off. Treat a cat well and you will have no cause for complaint. You will be well repaid. She will chase the mice away or keep them away. She will be a good companion and she will be faithful and love you. What more can you ask of an animal? The cat is no parasite

LIFE! which all can take but none can give:
Life! which all creatures love and strive to keep,
Wonderful, dear and pleasant to each,
Even to the meanest; yea, a boon to all
Where pity is, for pity makes the world
Soft to the weak and noble for the strong."

EDWIN ARNOLD



FEMININE AND FELINE CHARMS

CATS IN THE BIRD-STORE

BELLE CALDWELL

CATS have caused much annoyance on account of their liking to catch and annoy birds, both outdoors and in cages. An aquarium and bird-store in New York City has had experiences with the pet cats kept in the store, not for sale, but as pets as the store proprietors are fond of cats, which shows that cats can be prevented from eating or annoying birds.

Many canary and other birds are kept in individual cages in the large show-room. Two cats roamed about the store all the time. These cats are well fed all the time. They never attempt to catch or annoy the birds. The manager of the store states that it has been her experience that a well fed cat will rarely annoy birds or goldfish. One cat had to be punished twice for annoying the birds, but after that never noticed them.

One of these pet cats, four years of age, would come to the rear room and mew to attract attention when a bird broke loose from its cage and there was no one in the room to notice it. After mewing to attract attention it would run back into the room to show that the bird was out of the cage.

One day a canary got out of its cage and hid in a high place near the window. After searching the proprietors did not find it, but the cat searched and finally found the canary and brought it down by the wing in its mouth and took it to the owner without offering to hurt the bird in the least.

Many goldfish are kept in the uncovered glass aquariums but the cats walk and sit in the windows near them and never pay any attention to the fish. One cat in this store shows what care and good food will do for a cat. It is only four months old but it is as large as many cats at two or three years of age and its fur is sleek and clean. It is well fed every day.

HATS OFF TO ALABAMA

IN the eighty-page pamphlet, "Humane Treatment of Animals and Birds," authorized by the State Board of Education of Alabama and prepared by Miss Kate McLemore of that department, we have one of the very best compilations of helps for the teaching of kindness to animals that has yet appeared. It is heartily sponsored by R. E. Tidwell, superintendent of education, who writes the Foreword. Much of the Introduction, by Miss McLemore, is reprinted elsewhere in this issue. The syllabus is intended to assist teachers in carrying out the provisions of the compulsory humane education law of Alabama. A section is devoted to each of the six lower grades and to Junior high school grades, consisting of a statement of the main thought to be studied, outline of topics for study, directions, and selections of verse, prose, and memory gems.

It is indeed gratifying to know that every teacher in the lower grades of the Alabama schools will be supplied with this pamphlet, and at the ex-

pense of the state. In this respect Alabama leads all the other states, barring none, and we offer heartiest congratulations both to the officials of the state board and to Miss McLemore for her successful work. It is fitting to observe that this has been brought about through years of effort on the part of humane workers in Alabama to whom credit is given by Superintendent Tidwell in his Foreword.

FUNDAMENTAL to the realization of the ideal treatment of animals and birds is instruction of the children before habits of cruelty have so developed as to distort the kindly interest which if properly stimulated causes every child to be a lover of nature and particularly of nature's living sentient things.

R. E. TIDWELL, Sup't of Schools, Alabama

A DOG is the only thing on this earth that loves you more than he loves himself.

DARWIN

IN THE EDITOR'S LIBRARY

CLOISTER CHORDS, Sister M. Fides Shepperson, Ph. D.

A half-dozen essays, humane and inspirational, are from the pen of this well-known writer and frequent contributor to *Our Dumb Animals*. "Kindness," "Vox pro Mutis," and "The Vision Beautiful"—these are chords made vibrant by the touch of this tuneful humanitarian, and there are others, the songs of the cloister, which radiate a spirit of true humanity and a sympathy and love for all created things. At the Christmastide we would especially single out this admirable booklet of humane and altruistic appeal as a most fitting remembrance to put into the hands of one's friends. It may be enclosed in the regular-sized envelope and is obtainable at the modest sum of ten cents from the American Humane Association, Albany, N. Y.

The Band of Mercy

DR. FRANCIS H. ROWLEY, President
GUY RICHARDSON, Secretary
E. A. MARYOTT, State Organizer

PLEDGE

I will try to be kind to all living creatures and try to protect them from cruel usage.

The American Humane Education Society will send to every person who forms a Band of Mercy of thirty members and sends the name chosen for the Band and the name and post-office address of the president who has been duly elected:

1. Special Band of Mercy literature.
2. Several leaflets, containing pictures, stories, poems, addresses, reports, etc.
3. Copy of "Songs of Happy Life."
4. An imitation gold badge for the president.

See inside front cover for prices of literature and Band of Mercy supplies.

NEW BANDS OF MERCY

Seven hundred and twenty-five new Bands of Mercy were reported in October, nearly all being in schools. Of these, 263 were in Massachusetts; 131 in Rhode Island; 101 in Canada; 79 in South Carolina; 51 in Virginia; 31 in Delaware; 16 each in Maine and Pennsylvania; 14 in Georgia; seven in Tennessee; five in Maryland; three in Syria; two each in California and Porto Rico; and one each in the District of Columbia, Indiana, Minnesota and North Dakota.

Total number Bands of Mercy organized by Parent-American Society, 164,519

FORTY-SIX new Bands of Mercy have been organized recently throughout lower Delaware. The members hold regular weekly meetings and are doing splendid work, with attractive programs and reports of humane deeds. These Bands are largely the result of the interest in humane education of Mrs. Herbert W. Fox of Wilmington.

BAND OF MERCY BOY AWARDED \$5

WILLIAM HAYDEN, a pupil in one of the schools of Wilmington, Delaware, was awarded a five-dollar gold piece by the Delaware S. P. C. A. for rescuing an unknown Airedale dog which had broken through the ice and was struggling in the Brandywine Creek. At the risk of his life, William plunged in the open water under a bridge and swam against the icy current to reach the dog. In making the presentation at the school, the president of the Society commended Master Hayden and spoke with enthusiasm of the rapidly progressing work of the Bands of Mercy in the schools.

NEW LEAGUES IN NOVA SCOTIA

THROUGH the activities of the Nova Scotia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty, which is conducting an intensive campaign for humane education throughout that province, one hundred and one new Junior Humane Leagues, with a total enrollment of 4,605, have just been formed in the public and parochial schools of Sydney. This makes about 500 such Leagues now active in schools of Nova Scotia.

A GAILY COLORED CHICKEN

LITTLE Alice was taken on a visit to a peacock farm. Her mother was busily engaged in conversation when her small daughter ran up breathlessly. "Oh, mother, come quick. There's an old chicken out in the yard that is in full bloom."

—Children—A Magazine for Parents



COLLIE RESCUES BROCKTON BOY

THROUGH the courtesy of *The Enterprise*, Brockton, Mass., we present our readers this picture of three-year-old Wilber W. Wixon of that city and "Jock," a year-and-a-half-old collie belonging to Wilber's grandfather. When Wilber was playing with several other children, none over five years of age, he slipped off the bank of Salisbury river, falling face down into the water, which is quite deep. Jock was standing on a bridge about eight feet above where the children were playing. He immediately leaped into the river, fastened his teeth into the boy's clothing, and swam for the bank. Here he was assisted by young cousin of Wilber's in lifting the boy up on the bank to safety. The Wixon family give Jock full credit for saving Wilber's life.

INTEREST UNABATED IN SYRIA

OUR representative in Syria and the Lebanon, Mr. Rida Himadi, finds humane work increasing in its hold upon the peoples of those countries. A branch society has been started in Bakleen, the capital of the Druzes. More than one hundred members and soldiers have taken the pledge of the Band of Mercy. An educated Druze lady has started a Band in another city, the members of which are both women and young men. Membership increases are reported from several of the Bands previously organized. A committee of prominent Mohammedans from Damascus conferred with Mr. Himadi relative to securing permission from the French government to build a hospital for animals in that city. A wealthy man there is ready to back the project if the necessary permit can be obtained. It seems that *La Syrie*, a French paper, is asking for the organization of an S. P. C. A. in Lebanon and Syria. It looks as though the impetus given to the humane cause through the efforts of Mr. Himadi and his Band of Mercy will result in far greater work for animals in the very near future.

"Be Kind to Animals" Week, April 16-21;
Humane Sunday, April 15, 1928.

JUVENILE LEAGUE OF MERCY

FROM far-away Bombay, India, comes to us an order for 2,000 special buttons for an organization there similar to our Band of Mercy only with a different name. It is under the auspices of the Bombay Humanitarian League, which issues a full supply of helps for its juvenile organization, including a pledge card, a membership book, and an eight-page leaflet of instructions. Its objects are:

1. To cultivate the spirit of mercy, love and kindness to all creatures.
2. To impress upon the students (a) the wisdom, love and goodness of God in the animal creation, (b) our duty to them and also to unprotected human beings.
3. To create an interest among the students for humanitarianism by encouraging acts of kindness.

The pledge is the same as that of our American Band of Mercy, with the addition of a promise to abide by the rules and regulations of the League.

BIRDS' CHRISTMAS CAFETERIA

H. H. SLAWSON

IN at least one crowded section of Chicago, Christmas day is always a day of rejoicing for the birds. Mindful of how he had been taught in his native Sweden as a boy, that people who do not provide for the birds are not much thought of, John Lindgren, 1041 Newport Avenue, makes special effort to show in his new world home that he never forgets the training of that early, far-off youth.

The Scandinavian custom requires that at threshing time in summer the last two sheaves



of grain must be set aside and saved until Christmas morning, when they must be fastened to one's doorway to furnish a Yuletide feast for the birds. Thus it comes about that riders on the elevated railroad which passes Mr. Lindgren's rear door behold the odd sight of a sheaf of grain fastened as shown in the picture.

Sometimes it requires a long journey into the country to find some friends who can supply him with the grain at the right time, but since he came to America years ago, Mr. Lindgren has never failed his feathered friends on Christmas day.



A CHRISTMAS WISH

MAUDE WOOD HENRY

TO dumb beasts—a Merry Christmas! I would I could make you feel All happy inside at the gay yuletide With a warming, plenteous meal; A Christmas feast with the fixings That each of you likes most, With every treat that a beast can eat— How I'd like to be your host!

There would not be a horse among you, Nor a dog or cat astray, Nor a creature sad that wouldn't be glad This blessed Christmas day; I would gather you all together In a feast of joy and mirth, Every crippled and old and hungry and cold Dumb beast that walks the earth.

HE was a very little boy, in the drawing room for the first time. The visitor asked him, "Have you any cats and dogs at home?" "No," replied the boy sadly, "I am an only child."

—London Morning Post

A BIRD'S CHRISTMAS TREE

ELLEN C. LLORAS

ALVIN just loved Christmas time. He loved it from the time the bright-colored lights began to appear in the store windows at night, and trees and bushes in the home yards began to be decorated with strings of colored lights too, and Christmas wreaths were placed at doors and windows, and little red Christmas bells found their place here and there, and holly and mistletoe were about.

He loved the Christmas carols, and the good things to eat of Christmas time, and especially the Christmas tree. There was to be a big Christmas tree at his house. There it stood behind a closed door that was not to be opened until Christmas morning. Everything was just right for Christmas—if it would only snow.

How Alvin did wish that it would snow, and snow, and snow! And sure enough, on the day before Christmas it began snowing. Some flakes began falling before noon, and by the middle of the afternoon it was snowing fast. It snowed all night.

"Merry Christmas, son!" shouted Alvin's father, and out of bed tumbled that small boy early Christmas morning. Oh, look!

That closed door was wide open, and there was the Christmas tree with its bright ornaments, and hanging from its boughs, and heaped beneath it, were presents, and presents, and presents, for everybody. Alvin even forgot about the snow.

But he remembered after a while, and right to the window he ran. Yes sir! There was a good snow. The ground was white everywhere. The trees were weighted with it. There was enough for snowballs and everything. Alvin could hardly wait to be fully dressed, and get breakfast over with, and get out to play.

But in he dashed again almost the moment he was out. "Couldn't I fix it a Christmas tree, too?" he was saying excitedly.

He had found a little bird out in the cold, hopping about and chirping piteously because in the snow it could not find even a stray seed to eat.

Alvin busily collected some pieces of bread, and a nice mellow apple, and a piece of meat loaf his mother said he might take, and with scraps of red cord and bright ribbon dropped from the Christmas packages he tied them to a little snow-covered bush in a sheltered spot in the back yard.

The little bird was shy at first, in spite of its hunger; but as Alvin went on to play it began pecking at the feast hung from these snow-laden branches, and presently some other little birds came too.

Alvin stepped softly and made signs to his mother as she came out in the yard. And there they stood together several minutes, eagerly watching the joyous antics with which a half dozen little birds were taking the gifts from their own little Christmas tree.



Wide World Photos
A YOUTHFUL LONDON ANIMAL LOVER AND HER PET BABY DONKEY

The Early Christmas Shopper

Gains Many Advantages

Selection may be made much more leisurely and comfortably as the inevitable crowds of later on are avoided.

Assortments are more extensive than later and there's always a pleasure in choosing from the first showings.

Salespeople—and saleswomen particularly—will be relieved of some of the stress and strain of the just-before-Christmas rush.

There will be less tension upon the delivery and other branches of the business—all making for your satisfaction.

Salespeople have more time and opportunity to render the service we and they are both anxious to give.

Jordan Marsh Company

The Store that's filled with the Spirit of Christmas

AN APPRECIATIVE EDITORIAL

THE press of Boston have always nobly supported the work of the Massachusetts S. P. C. A. It is especially gratifying to read the following editorial in the *Boston Post* of October 8:

A Fine Work

Although summer appears to be still "hangin' round" these parts, it is officially over for the M. S. P. C. A., consequently the work of that fine organization in the way of furnishing refreshments for horses in various sections of the city has come to an end.

Dr. Rowley's lieutenants may well take pride to themselves for the excellent manner in which they have conducted these drinking places during the season. During September, 14,416 horses were given water, making a total of 34,018 horses watered on the streets during the summer.

In these days, when the watering fountains that used to give the horse so much relief are still closed, the blessings of the "Society's" pails are incalculable.

GOLDSMITH AND HIS DOG

WHILE Oliver Goldsmith was writing "The Traveller," a friend calling at the lodging of the poet, opened the door without knocking and discovered him, not in deep meditation or in the throes of poetic birth, but in the boyish work of teaching a favorite dog to sit up and beg.

On the page before him was written, with the ink of the second line still wet, the couplet:

"By sports like these are all their cares beguiled,
The sports of children satisfy the child."

THE RETORT COURTEOUS

STANDING by the entrance of a large estate in the suburbs of Dublin are two huge dogs carved out of granite.

An Englishman going by in a motor thought he would have some fun with the Irish driver. "How often do they feed those two big dogs?"

"Whenever they bark, sir," was the straightforward reply.

WARNING!

PATIENT: Doctor, what are my chances?
Doctor: O, pretty good, but don't start reading any long continued stories.

—New York State Lion

SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT

Statement of the ownership, management, circulation, etc., of *Our Dumb Animals*, published monthly, at Norwood, Mass., required by the Act of August 24, 1912.

Publishers—The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Norwood, Mass.
Editor—Guy Richardson, Back Bay Station, Boston, Mass.

Managing Editor—Francis H. Rowley, President, Back Bay Station, Boston, Mass.
Business Managers—Officers of the Mass. S. P. C. A.

Owners: (If a corporation, give names and addresses of stockholders holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of stock.)

The Mass. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Charitable Corporation). All funds and property controlled by Board of Directors. Francis H. Rowley, President; Guy Richardson, Secretary; Albert A. Pollard, Treasurer.

Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders, holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities.

None.

Guy Richardson, Editor

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this fourth day of October, 1927.

L. Willard Walker, Notary Public

[Seal]

(My commission expires Jan. 30, 1931.)

BOOKS FOR COUNTY SCHOOLS

THE county superintendent of schools, with headquarters at Colorado Springs, Colo., announced in the local papers the need of good books for circulating libraries in the schools of the county. A generous friend of humane education happened to see this notice and immediately sent to the American Humane Education Society for \$73 worth of our best books to be shipped to the superintendent. We added ten copies of bound volumes of *Our Dumb Animals* to the order, so that altogether 100 new books, all in the line of humane education, will be in circulation in these Colorado school libraries.

OUR DUMB ANIMALS

Published on the first Tuesday of each month by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 46 Central Street, Norwood, Massachusetts. Boston office: 180 Longwood Avenue. Address all communications to Boston.

TERMS

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Humane Societies and Agents are invited to correspond with us for terms on large orders.

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Checks and other payments may be sent to ALBERT A. POLLARD, Treasurer, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston.

Manuscripts should be addressed to the Editor, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston.

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